

## BOUCHER SECURES FEDERAL FUNDING FOR CHILHOWIE VOLUNTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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### ***\$18,255 Federal Grant Will Enable Purchase of New Equipment for Responding to Motor Vehicle Accidents***

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□□□□□□□□□□(Washington, D.C.) – U.S. Representative Rick Boucher announced today that, at his urging, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, through its Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, is providing a federal grant in the amount of \$18,255 to the Chilhowie Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of new safety equipment for responding to motor vehicle accidents.

**“This provision of federal funding will enable the purchase of equipment that will enable the members of the Chilhowie Volunteer Fire Department to respond more efficiently and with an added measure of safety to motor vehicle accidents,”** Bouc  
her  
said.

With the benefit of the federal funds, the Chilhowie Volunteer Fire Department will purchase stabilization equipment, which enables a vehicle to be stabilized as victims are

extricated providing an added measure of safety for both victims and Department members. Additionally, the Department will purchase emergency foam, which helps prevent fuel fires at the scene of vehicle accidents. Finally, the Department will purchase 30 sets of personal protective gear. The gear is designed to be worn by members responding to vehicle accidents and is both reflective and made of a durable material to protect members from jagged metal or broken glass at the scene.

The Chilhowie Volunteer Fire Department provides fire protection to the Town of Chilhowie and the surrounding areas of Smyth County, including a portion of Interstate 81. The Department has 21 members who serve on a voluntary basis and two paid members.

**"I am pleased that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has provided this funding to the Chilhowie Volunteer Fire Department. It is important to ensure that our fire and rescue personnel have access to the best equipment and today's announcement will help further this goal,"** Boucher concluded.

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